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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: K. AOTA, et al.
Serial No.: 10/600,608
Filed: JUNE 23, 2003
Title: FRICTION STIR WELDING METHOD AND STRUCTURE BODY
Group: 1725
Examiner: Jonathan J. Johnson
Confirm. No.: 9596

RESPONSE**Mail Stop: AF – FEE**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

December 14, 2005

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 14, 2005, Applicants respectfully submit the following Remarks, and enclosed Terminal Disclaimer, responding particularly to the obviousness-type and provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejections therein.

Initially, it is noted that the Examiner has rejected the claims over, inter alia, claim 5 of “US 6,60,837”. For clarification of the record, and noting the Form PTO-892 enclosed with this Office Action mailed September 14, 2005, cited U.S. Patent No. 6,607, 837, in the following (including in the enclosed Terminal Disclaimer) U.S. Patent No. 6,607,837 is considered. In any event, for clarification of the record, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner indicate the U.S. patent, of which claim 5 is being applied in the obviousness-type double patenting rejection, particularly if a patent other than U.S. Patent No. 6,607,837 is being applied.